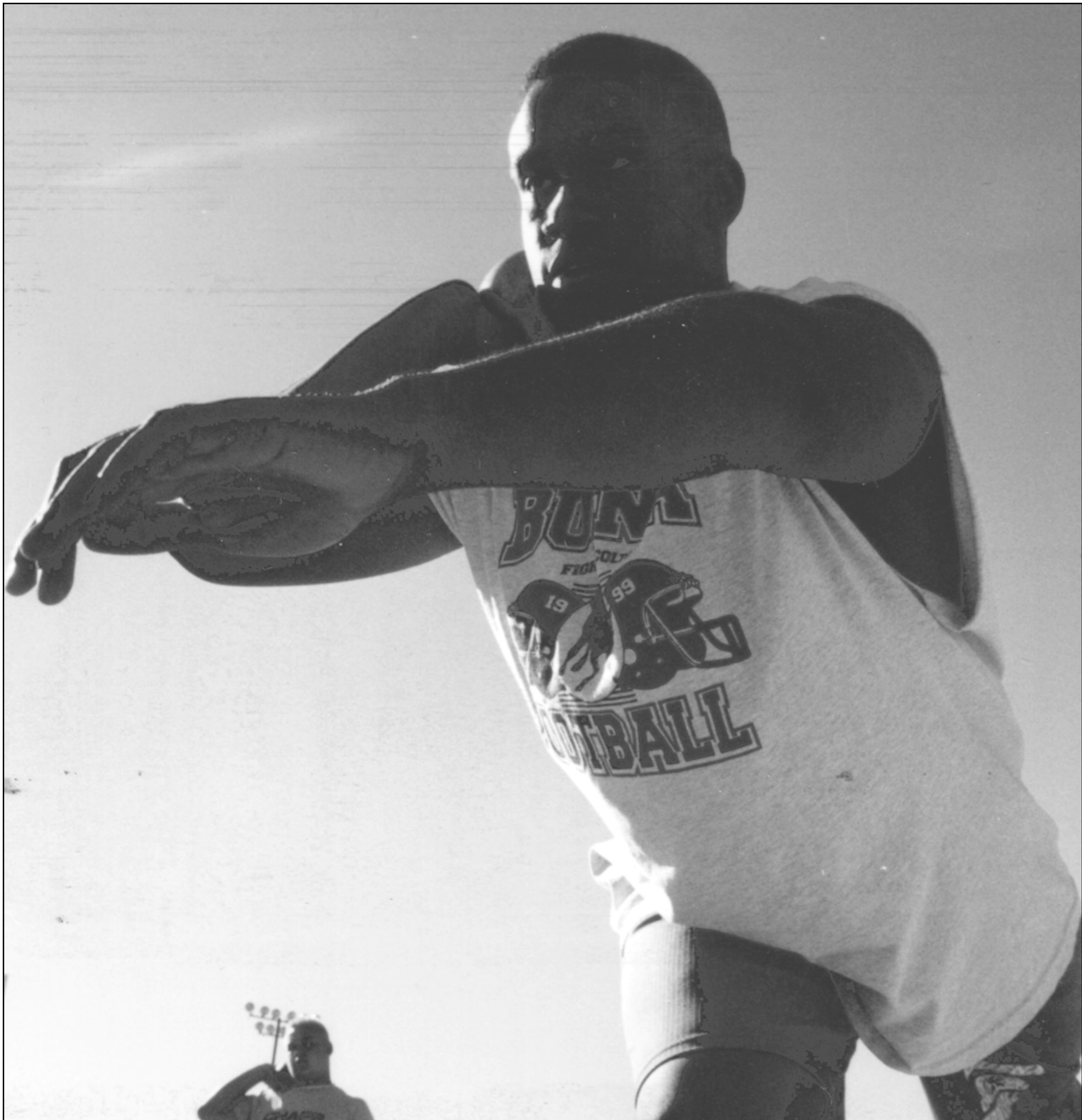


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Maulies Pettaway Jr., Buena High School track team, sits in the shot-put circle.

Photo by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Rolling Thunder Skate Park offers beginner classes

By Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone
Sports Editor

Aggressive skating can be a difficult challenge, whether it is skateboarding or in-line skating, but it doesn't have to seem impossible.

The Rolling Thunder Skate Park is offering a free, beginners in-line skating class Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is the first time the park has offered a class to help out beginning skaters.

"The class will help beginner skaters learn how to skate on the course, not just crash and burn," said Richard Brown, Youth Services director.

There will be three skate-guards on hand to help instruct students how to become better skaters, use the park and safety equipment, as well as basic maneuvers like grinding.

"The class will help skaters understand the basics of skating," Brown said. "Skating is difficult and you

mostly learn through trial and error. We want to take away some of the error and help get kids started."

To beginner skaters, the Rolling Thunder Skate Park may seem intimidating with its 8-foot-tall quarter-pipe in one corner and 15-foot-tall wave used to "drop in," but the class is geared at taking away fears that beginners might have.

"To new skaters the park is very intimidating," Brown said. "We want to give the skaters some tips on how to land certain tricks and just use the equipment."

While teaching new skaters the ropes of the park and the basics of skating, guards will alleviate tension for the skaters by helping them hit the tricks they want.

"A lot of kids want to learn tricks without being showed-up like in free skate," Brown said. "Some kids are afraid to try anything when there are

people landing trick after trick."

Although the park was built a year ago it has already undergone some renovations. Recently the park received about \$10,000 worth of lighting equipment to keep the park open until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

In addition to the lights the park is looking into getting an outdoor sound system. There are already speaker cages up, but the project needs to be

completed.

In the future the park may look into purchasing new equipment, Brown said. It all depends on whether or not the park can keep bringing a good amount of skaters in.

Skaters participating in the class will also be given a free lunch. No reservations are need to participate and the class begins at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Aggressive in-line skating may be difficult, but the new classes offered at the Rolling Thunder Skate Park make landing tricks like this easier.



Photos by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Tricks such as basic grinds will be among the skills taught during the class.

Eifler Gym expands, gets new free-weight room, equipment

By Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone
Sports Editor

Eifler Gym is scheduled to have a new free-weight room by the end of May.

Soon Eifler Gym will get a new storage room. The old storage room will then be transformed into a free-weight room.

"The expansion of the new weight room will give patrons more for their work out," said Capt. Jason R. Fishell, Headquarters Company 111th Military Intelligence Brigade.

The free weight equipment will be moved from the cardiovascular work out area into the new area.

While the expansion will give patrons the opportunity to work strictly in an area geared toward free-weights, it will also free up space in the cardiovascular work-out room, where the free weights currently reside.

Because of the expansion both

rooms will be focused for a particular workout theme, such as strictly weights or cardiovascular.

"We're expanding because the gym is now open to everyone now," Fishell said. "We are averaging 2,300

patrons a week, and 48 percent are personnel outside of the 111th MI Brigade."

With the new addition also comes new equipment. "The new weight room will eventually allow us to put new equipment in there," Fishell said.

"We want to have a larger variety and get new equipment ... the things that are used the most."

Both the free-weight and the cardio workout rooms will be getting new equipment. First in store is some new treadmills and Stairmasters for the cardio room.

Once everything is set up in May the gym will look at what equipment is needed and purchase additional equipment depending on need.

Although the gym is only a few years old it is already seeing a need for expansion to meet customer service.

"Eifler is geared toward customer service and supporting our soldiers," Fishell said.



File photo

Eifler Gym is scheduled to receive a new free-weight room in May.

Cochise County captured through ‘Desert Aura’

By *Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone*
Scout Staff

When you cross a passion for Cochise County with the web design skills of a computer specialist you get an award winning web site that is candy for the eyes.

Recently, Beverly Parks, Information Systems Engineering Command computer specialist, won a 1999 Star Tech Mousey Award for her web site, “Desert Aura: A Cochise County Pictorial.” Parks received an honorable

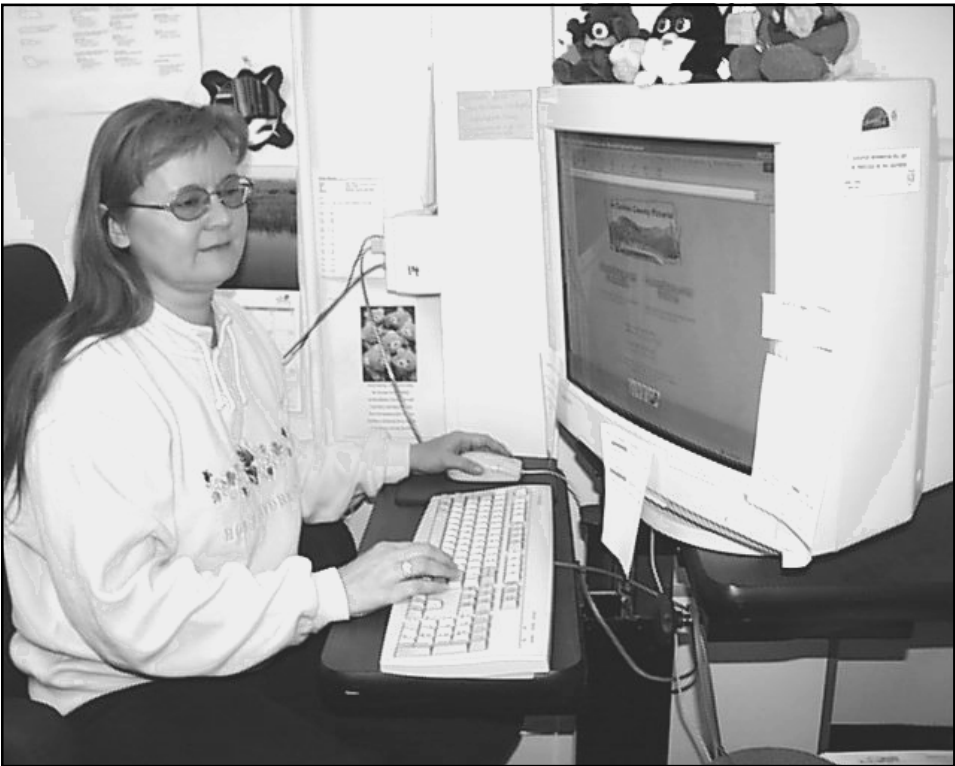


Photo by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Beverly Parks accesses her web site www.desertaura.com.

mention award in the personal/family category.

Parks started DesertAura.com in 1998 shortly after purchasing her first digital camera.

“I’ve always loved photography,” Parks said. “When I bought my first digital camera it opened all kinds of avenues.”

With technology on her side Parks would now be able to get out into the county and fulfill her goal.

“I wanted to be able to show people what beauty lies inside Cochise County,” Parks said.

Parks originally started her “Desert Aura” to fully represent each of the communities within the county. She started in Sierra Vista and the surrounding communities, taking photos of different buildings and parks. She then ventured east over the last year working in Benson, Douglas and Wilcox. She only needs Sunizona and Kansas Settlement to finish all the Cochise County communities.

“My primary focus is to show all the public places in towns to give people an idea of what the town is like,” Parks said.

Recently Parks started the move to outdoor areas as well.

“I love the outdoors,” Parks said. “This gives me



Photo by Beverly Parks

A photo of Ramsey Canyon from Parks’ website.

a chance to get back out into the areas where I used to go when I was younger. It helps me get back out to the places I love, the mountains.”

So far she has covered Ramsey Canyon, as well as Kartchner Caverns, and is looking to finish up the rest of the outdoor areas, like Cave Creek Recreation Area and Chiricahua National Monument within the upcoming year.

Since the creation of the site in 1998 its popularity has grown. There is now a 23-member mailing list. Members on the mailing list are from all across the U.S.

“Every once in a while I’ll get an e-mail from someone saying how much they enjoyed my site,” Parks said. “That’s what makes it all worthwhile.”

Parks will continue to work on the outdoor areas of her site for the next year. She also has some other ideas brewing, but doesn’t want to reveal them too soon.

“The site is not just for tourists,” Park said. “It’s for the people who live here, who appreciate and love Cochise County as much as I do.”

Army pentathlete is in the fast lane to Sydney

U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center release

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The road to Sydney is wide open for one of the Army’s top all-around athletes. Spc. Chad Senior is in the fast lane on his way to the 2000 Summer Olympic Games.

Two years ago, the 26-year-old Army World Class Athlete was just learning the ins and outs of the five-sport Modern Pentathlon. Today, Senior is the nation’s top-ranked pentathlete and, by winning the Modern Pentathlon World Cup #1 Olympic Qualifier in Mexico City, Mexico, on March 12, he all but guaranteed himself a spot at the Games in September.

“It was a huge step,” said Senior of the Mexico City win. “Certainly shocked me as well. I was telling someone it’s been like a hurricane hit me all at once.”

In the last year, Senior has taken the pentathlon world by storm. He’s made the finals in every event, winning the individual gold in Malmo, Sweden, last May.

An administrative specialist by Army trade, Senior has worked hard to improve in the five pentathlon disciplines: fencing, swimming, shooting, running, and equestrian riding. But the real key to his success is simple: “I think I’ve taken a little bit of the pressure off of myself or I’ve tried to anyway,” says the North Fort Myers, Fla. native. “It’s kind of an old cliché, but I’ve tried to have fun with it as opposed to belaboring the mediocre results I might have had. And I think taking a step back and trying to be more relaxed really has helped me”

Senior’s win in Mexico City, along with American Velizar Iliev’s gold at the 1999 Pan American games, means the United States can send two pentathletes to the Olympics. If he sustains his winning ways in three more competitions, Senior is definitely in the driver’s seat to make the U.S. team.



CFSC Public Affairs

“Yeah, it’s mine to lose, so I’m not going to let up the intensity, that’s for sure,” he said during training for the World Cup in San Antonio, Texas, adding “If anything, now I’m more excited than ever to get back to training.”

Riding is one of five Modern Pentathlon sports Spc. Chad Senior has mastered in addition to fencing, swimming, running and shooting.

Buena track on way to another top finish in region

*By Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone
Sports Editor*

Taking first in their last two of three meets the Buena High School track team is well on their way to another first-place finish in their conference.

With the boys’ team winning first the last four years and the girls taking it the last three, expectations are high again this year.

“We have a really good program here,” said senior sprinter Quincy Rice. “It’s the dedication we all give that makes the team.”

Dedication is a top priority for the 90-member track team that practices two and a half hours every week day. The team practices on Bujalski Field at Barnes Field House Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Every Wednesday the team has a meet and meets next at Chandler, Ariz.

The team’s next home track meet is March 29 at Bujalski Field.

With almost a quarter of the season finished expectations for the team are high.



See Track, Page B5 *Freshman Mark Murphy barely hits the bar during high jump practice.*



Senior Eddie James launches a discus.

Photos by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Track from Page B4

“We’ve been doing really well,’ said first-year shot-put, discus and high jump coach Robert Graetz. “We’ve been capturing a lot of second, third and fourth place finishes.”

Team members seem mentally and physically up to whatever challenges fall before them.

“We’re out here conditioning and training everyday,” said senior sprinter Adrian Thomas. “I know we’re going to take the conference again this year.”

As the previous four years of success for the Buena track team, this year looks just as good. Team members credit this track dynasty to their coaches.

“The coaches work us hard, but they are really good at what they do,” Rice said.

What sets the Buena team aside from other teams is most likely the companionship among its members. The friendships created on the field can be seen at practice as they work together to urge each other to excel.

“It’s the friendships that make it all worthwhile, Thomas said.



Marcus Siwemuke practices jumping over hurdles.



Sam Hemesath charges down the pole vault runway.



Hemesath springs over the bar.

Photos by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

10,000 pounds of catfish coming to urban lakes

Ariz. Game & Fish release

Urban anglers will want to get their catfishing outfits ready (while keeping their trout fishing rigs handy) — 10,000 pounds of catfish are heading for the urban lakes the next two weeks, advised Arizona Game and Fish Department officials. “If you have a two-pole stamp you might want to rig up for catfish on one pole and trout on another!” said Urban Fisheries Program Specialist Dana Bayer, adding that the stockings last week were trout. Catfish stockings begin Saturday,

March 18 in the greater Phoenix area lakes. Tucson urban lakes will be receiving their first catfish of the season March 25. “This year’s season will be different in that Phoenix and Tucson lakes will be stocked on alternating weeks. That change of schedule means Phoenix lakes will be stocked two weeks in a row — last week with trout, and this week with catfish,” Bayer said. There is something new this year — Fish Traders of Texas is the supplier for the 12 Phoenix area lakes. Fish Traders will

be transporting Texas grown catfish to the urban lakes in Phoenix. Once again, Brown’s Fish Farm near Safford will be the supplier for the three Urban Program lakes in Tucson. Brown’s will be transporting catfish from Arkansas to our urban lakes. “We look forward to another season of 1.5 pound average size catfish (14-17 inches). All Phoenix and Tucson lakes will be stocked at approximately 85 pounds of catfish per surface acre of lake (that’s about 50 catfish per acre on average!). You can find the size of your

favorite lake in the Urban Fishing Program brochure,” Bayer said. Catfish will be stocked every other week until mid-July. There will be no stockings July 15 through Sept. 15 due to the unsuitable environmental conditions that time of year. Past years have proven this to be a period of extremely high temperatures and pH in the lakes, and a very difficult time to successfully transport fish long distances. The Urban Fishing Program staff looks forward to a great season with our two catfish vendors.

Two charged in gray wolf killing, violate endangered species act

Ariz. Game & Fish release

Two eastern Arizona men have been charged with the killing of a Mexican gray wolf, found dead over one year and four months ago in the Apache National Forest in New Mexico. Wolf #493, a female member of the Hawks Nest Pack, was discovered shot to death near Jim Smith Peak in Catron County, New Mexico on October 18, 1998. Twenty-one-year-old James Michael Rogers, Eagar, Arizona, and an unnamed juvenile, have been charged with multiple violations of the Endangered Species Act and Lacey Act in federal court, District of Arizona. Charges were filed on March 6 against James Michael Rogers and on March 8 against the juvenile. A summons to appear before a federal court was served on both individuals by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Special Agents last week.

James Michael Rogers faces potential penalties of up to \$100,000 in fines and one year in prison if convicted of a violation of the Lacey Act and \$25,000 and six months in prison if convicted of a violation of the Endangered Species Act special rules. Investigations by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Special Agents, assisted by the Springerville Police Department and New Mexico Department of Game & Fish, concluded on Feb. 15. Two firearms, a 7.62-caliber SKS rifle and a .22-caliber rifle were seized and are subject to forfeiture. Investigation determined that Wolf #493 was shot to death near Nutrioso, Arizona, then transported that same night across the Arizona/New Mexico state line in an attempt to conceal evidence of the killing.

Investigations into the illegal killing of three other Mexican gray wolves are still being conducted. A female wolf was killed Aug. 7, 1998, the opening day of bear hunting season in the Williams Valley area near Alpine, Arizona. A male wolf was found dead of a gunshot wound near the Arizona/New Mexico state line on Nov. 7, 1998. Another male wolf was found shot to death on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation on Nov. 23, 1998. Anyone with information regarding these killings is encouraged to call (480) 835-8289 or the Arizona Operation Game Thief Hotline at 800-352-0700. Callers may remain anonymous. Additional information regarding the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction program is available on the Internet at <http://mexicanwolf.fws.gov>.

Fort, DM team up, send rugby team to military nationals

*By Jim Barnett
Special to The Scout*

Fort Huachuca is teaming up with Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, to send a combined rugby team to the Military National Finals in San Diego, Calif. the first weekend of May. The Fort Huachuca side is looking for additional players with experience in the game of rugby. With the combined efforts of both the Army and Air Force team, the trip to San Diego is becoming more of a reality with each day. However, the team still needs players. Currently the Davis Monthan team has joined forces with the Old Pueblo Lions, a Tucson club, as their “B side” team.

The “B side” team also has assistance from players working on Fort Huachuca. Davis-Monthan will pay the entry fees, and Old Pueblo will provide the team jerseys for the tournament.. The National Military Tournament has two divisions — Open side (groups of players combining only for the tournament, and Club side (teams competing only for a particular military installation). With the down-sizing of the mili-

tary, there has been a great reduction in the number of club teams, resulting in a higher level of competition in the open division. As a result, it is our advantage to create a pure military team playing under one base entity. Retired Air Force Col. Dick Battock will coach the team, along with Nash Djurkic, the Old Pueblo coach. Dick Battock is the former chairman of military rugby, and coached the DM Mandrills when they were a power in military rugby. To join this combined Southwest Military Rugby Team in their endeavors to compete at the Military National Finals, call Jim Barnett at 378-3468 or Battack at (520) 886-7003. Training has already begun.



Photo by Sgt. Cullen James

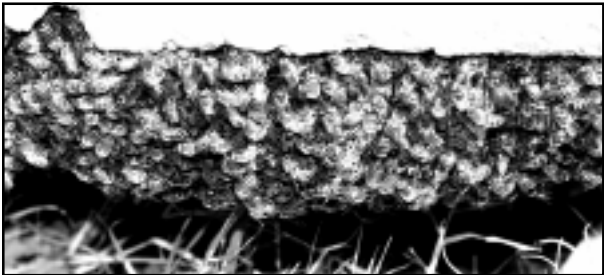
Pull!

Ivan Mechsner from Canyon City, Colo., shatters a trap after it was launched from its concrete bunker. Mechsner was polishing his skills for the Garden Canyon Trap Club Winter Chain Tournament which started Wednesday and ends Sunday. The tournament is being held at the Fort Huachuca Sportsman’s Center.

Buzzin’

A swarm of thousands of bees is currently residing under the footpath to Barnes Field House. Directorate of Installation Support officials say to stay clear of the swarm. Right now the bees don’t appear to be aggressive. Officials expect the swarm to be moving within the week.

A closer view.



Photos by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

